Proposal # 2001-17-208	(Office Use Only)
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PS.	P Cover Sheet (Attach to the front of ea	ach propos	sal)
Prop	posal Title: <u>Kirker Creek Waters</u> plicant Name: Contra Costa Resour	hed CRI	MP Program
Apr	olicant Name: Contra Costa Resour	ce Cons	servation District
Con	tact Name: Laura Cossey		
M ai	ling Address: 5552 Clayton Road.	Concor	d, CA 94521
Tele	ephone: (925) 672-6522 ext. 3		
Fax	* (000) 070 0004		
Ema	ail: ccrcd@pacbell.net		
	ount of funding requested: \$\ 198,450		
Son	ne entities charge different costs dependent	on the sow	rce of the funds. If it is different for state or federal
func	ds list below.		
Stat	e cost	Fede	ral cost
Cos	st share partners?		YesNo
Ider	atify partners and amount contributed by ea	ch Tota	<pre>1 committed matching contributions=</pre>
\$ 2	241,895 (Contra Costa RCD \$6	56,195,	NRCS \$ 66,650, Watershed planning
•	roup \$109,050)		
Ind	icate the Topic for which you are applyi	ng (check	
□	Natural Flow Regimes		Beyond the Riparian Corridor
	Nonnative Invasive Species	×	Local Watershed Stewardship
	Channel Dynamics/Sediment Transport		Environmental Education
	Flood Management		Special Status Species Surveys and Studies
	Shallow Water Tidal/ Marsh Habitat		Fishery Monitoring, Assessment and Research
	Contaminants		Fish Screens
Wh	at county or counties is the project located	in? Cont	ra Costa County
Wh	at CALFED ecozone is the project locate	ed in? See	e attached list and indicate number. Be as specific as
pos	sible <u>2.1 Suisun Bay an</u> d Mar	s h	
Ind	icate the type of applicant (check only one		
	State agency		Federal agency
	Public/Non-profit joint venture		Non-profit
×	Local government/district	_	Tribes
	University		Private party
	Other:		

Ind	icate the primary species which the pr	oposal addres	ses (check all that apply):
	San Joaquin and East-side Delta tributar	ies fall-run chi	nook salmon
	Winter-run chinook salmon	<u> </u>	Spring-run chinook salmon
	Late-fall run chinook salmon	□	Fall-run chinook salmon
	Delta smelt		Longfin smelt
	Splittail		Steelhead trout
	Green sturgeon	<b></b>	Striped bass
	White Sturgeon		All chinook species
X	Waterfowl and Shorebirds	Й	All anadromous salmonids
X	Migratory birds		American shad
X	Other listed T/E species: Californi	<u>a red-leg</u>	ged frog California tiger salamander
	San Joaqu	in Kit fo	x, and San Joaquin pocket mouse
Ind	icate the type of project (check only or	ie box):	
	Research/Monitoring	Ø	Watershed Planning
	Pilot/Demo Project		Education
	Full-scale Implementation		
ls t	nis a next-phase of an ongoing project?	Yes	No_X_
Hav	ve you received funding from CALFED before?	Yes <u>X</u>	No
lf y e	es, list project title and CALFED number_A1h	ambra Cre #98-E17	ek Watershed CRMP Program
Hav	ve you received funding from CVPIA before?	Yes	No_X_
If y	es, list CVPIA program providing funding, projec	t title and CVPI	A number (if applicable):

#### By signing below, the applicant declares the following:

- · The truthfulness of all representations in their proposal;
- The individual signing the form is entitled to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if the applicant is an entity or organization); and
- The person submitting the application has read and understood the conflict of interest and confidentiality discussion in the PSP (Section 2.4) and waives any and all rights to privacy and confidentiality of the proposal on behalf of the applicant, to the extent as provided in the Section.

Laura Cossey
Printed name of applicant
Signature of applicant

#### B. Executive Summary

#### Title of Project

Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program

#### **Amount Requested**

\$198,450

CALFED Requested Amount	\$198,450
Committed Matching Contributions	\$241,895
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT	\$440,345

#### **Applicant Name**

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

#### Address

5552 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521

#### Phone

(925) 672-6522 x 3

**FAX** 

(925) 672-8064

E-Mail

ccrcd@pacbell.net

#### Participants and Collaborators

- City of Pittsburg
- Contra Costa County
- Contra Costa County Farm Bureau
- Contra Costa Clean Water Program
- Contra Costa Watershed Forum
- Dow Chemical Company
- East Bay Regional Park District
- Friends of the Creek
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Local ranchers
- Residential landowners

The goal of the Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program is to facilitate, coordinate, and support the efforts of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industry, and citizens of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop and write a watershed management plan using the Coordinated Resource Management & Planning (CRMP) process. The CRMP process emphasizes local control, consensus based decision-making, and voluntary implementation. This planning effort is designed to address watershed-wide natural resource problems including restoration of wetland and riparian communities, prevention of soil erosion, reduction of non-point source pollution, reduction of flooding, and the preservation of property rights by engaging local landowners and other watershed stakeholders.

The Kirker Creek Watershed is located in northeastern Contra Costa County, and drains approximately 8,000 acres into the San Joaquin River. The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will result in progress toward CALFED ERP goals by using an adaptive management approach to address watershed-wide natural resource planning associated with at-risk species, ecosystem processes and biotic communities, habitats, non-native invasive species, as well as sediment and water quality. By approaching management of natural resources on a watershed basis, the health of the entire system and each of the components will be addressed. Participation in the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kirker Creek watershed management activities by local landowners and other watershed stakeholders, including government agencies and academic institutions is essential to the effective long-term land stewardship of the area.

#### C. Project Description

#### 1. Statement of the Problem

#### a. Problem

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program is designed to address watershed-wide natural resource problems including restoration of wetland and riparian communities, prevention of soil erosion, reduction of non-point source pollution, reduction of flooding, and the preservation of property rights by engaging local landowners and other watershed stakeholders.

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will result in progress toward CALFED ERP goals by using an adaptive management approach to address watershed-wide natural resource planning associated with at-risk species, ecosystem processes and biotic communities, habitats, non-native invasive species, as well as sediment and water quality. By approaching management of natural resources on a watershed basis, the health of the entire system and each of the components will be addressed. Although there is strong, broad based support for this project, it is important to stress that the goals and objectives of the watershed plan have not been developed and will be developed entirely by the citizen's planning group. In light of this situation, there are a number of resource issues the watershed plan may address, which will most likely have potential benefits for several stressors, habitats, and priority species.

The Kirker Creek watershed includes shaded riverine aquatic habitat, instream aquatic habitat, tidal perennial aquatic habitat, and saline emergent aquatic habitat. The headwaters of Kirker Creek lie within the East Bay Regional Park District (Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve). The creek runs through Buchanan Park (City of Pittsburg) and then through the urbanized stretch before making its way through Dow Chemical Company's wetlands preserve and on into the San Joaquin River. The watershed supports a number of rare, threatened, and endangered species including California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, San Joaquin kit fox, San Joaquin pocket mouse, Large-flowered fiddleneck, Delta tule pea, Mason's lileaeopsis, burrowing owl, Alameda whipsnake, as well as waterfowl, shorebirds, and migratory birds (CA Dept. of F&G, 2000). Although Kirker Creek is not known to be inhabited by fish, the approximately 8000 acres of land draining into the San Joaquin River does impact all aquatic life. including fish, in the Suisun Marsh and Bay as well as further downstream. Potential restoration activities could remove fish migration barriers and reduce non-point source pollution, creating a fish friendly environment. Diazinon and other non-point source pollutants are listed as parameters of concern in the Suisun Bay and a watershed plan that identifies management practices to effectively reduce these water quality concerns by addressing urban runoff at the source through education, could prove to be an invaluable tool (EPA, 2000).

There are a number of stressors, which may be addressed by the Kirker Creek Watershed plan:

- Hydrograph alterations due to seasonal flow distributions. Increasing summer seasonal flows may be
  addressed through two mechanisms. The first is the restoration of riparian areas, which act as a
  sponge, releasing freshwater during the summer drought. The second is addressing groundwater
  usage and recharge within the watershed.
- Migration barriers due to insufficient flows over shallow areas and adverse water quality conditions.
   Increasing summer seasonal flows through proper riparian management and reducing non-point source pollution will likely reduce migration barriers for anadromous fish populations.
- Alteration of channel form due to channel deepening and lack of floodplain. Channel deepening and resulting loss of floodplain may be addressed through improved riparian management in residential areas and cattle ranches. Dow Chemical Company has expressed interest in expanding its existing 150-acre wetland preserve at the mouth of Kirker Creek to accommodate more runoff. Prevention of further incisement and restoration of proper stream and riparian function will likely be addressed in the watershed plan.

- Loss of rearing and spawning habitat. Reestablishment of proper stream and riparian functioning will likely improve anadramous fish habitat.
- Loss of shaded riverine aquatic (SRA) habitat. Incisement of the stream channel has stranded many riparian areas. Degradation of mature riparian forests has diminished the amount of SRA habitat. Reestablishment of proper stream and riparian functioning will likely improve conditions for natural recruitment of riparian species. Active restoration of some riparian areas may also be addressed by the watershed plan.
- Water quality declines due to non-point pollution sources. Non-point source pollution, whether from agricultural or urban land uses, will likely be addressed extensively by the plan.
- Water quality declines due to agricultural runoff leading to low dissolved oxygen levels. Nutrient inputs from cattle ranches and horse boarding facilities will likely be addressed through the development of conservation plans with individual landowners and through educational efforts.
- Water temperature alterations due to lack of riparian shade. Reestablishment of proper stream and riparian functioning will likely improve conditions for natural recruitment of riparian species. Active restoration of riparian areas may also be addressed by the watershed plan.
- Undesirable species interactions due to invasive riparian plants. Management of exotic pest plants is an integral component of any restoration plan. The watershed plan will likely address management of exotic pest plants as part of localized restoration efforts or as its own separate issue.

The Kirker Creek watershed encompasses many of the resource issues typical of the wildland-urban interface. Most of the upper watershed is still actively grazed. Mid portions of the watershed are experiencing heavy development pressures. The lower portion of the watershed has a mosaic of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. The watershed management plan will address each of these issues by developing conservation measures, which will be applied through voluntary, cooperative programs.

The goal of watershed management is to plan and work toward an environmentally and economically healthy watershed that benefits all who have a stake in it (CTIC, 1998). Watershed planning efforts around the state have been quite successful in bringing together diverse stakeholders to address natural resource issues, particularly in the Bay/Delta ecosystem. The Napa, Petaluma, Russian, and Sonoma Watersheds, as well as others throughout the region, have produced watershed plans that provide local stakeholders a framework for implementing conservation on a voluntary basis. These plans have been widely distributed and utilized as resources for future implementation of restoration actions identified as priorities. The watershed plan is also an indispensable educational resource that provides watershed specific information that allows landowners, agencies, community groups and others to make informed decisions regarding land use and planning.

The goals of the project are to facilitate, coordinate, and support the efforts of landowners, municipalities, industry, and citizens of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop and write a watershed management plan using the Coordinated Resource Management & Planning (CRMP) process. The CRMP process emphasizes local control, consensus based decision-making, and voluntary implementation (CRMP, 1996). The Contra Costa RCD is requesting the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program to assist the RCD in supporting local stakeholders of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop a watershed management plan.

The development of the watershed plan is a collaborative process, involving the participation of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industry, and citizens from the area. Interest in participating and collaborating in this project has received broad based community support and includes local ranchers, residential landowners, Contra Costa County Farm Bureau, Contra Costa County, Contra

Costa Clean Water Program, East Bay Regional Park District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Dow Chemical Company, City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Watershed Forum, and Friends of the Creek. See attached letters of support from the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, Dow Chemical, and East Bay Regional Park District. The development of a Technical Advisory Committee is underway and participation is expected by several state, federal and local agencies as well as other community groups. Our current CALFED funded Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP has received tremendous support and its successes have paved the way for Kirker Creek to generate the same level of interest and participation, fostering community involvement.

**Objectives:** One of the earliest objectives of the project was to identify key stakeholders and determine the general level of interest the local community had for developing a watershed plan. Contra Costa RCD engaged in "market research" and had several discussions with local landowners, industry, municipalities and community groups. It became clear that the community was interested in proactively managing their natural resources through a cooperative, voluntary watershed planning program.

The next objective will be to inform *all* landowners in the watershed of our intent to facilitate the development of a watershed management plan. This task will be accomplished through the cooperative efforts of the Contra Costa County Assessors office and the Contra Costa RCD. After creating an extensive mailing database, thousands of fliers will be sent to *every* landowner within the watershed announcing the first public meeting. Our objectives here will be to help community members realize that they could be a part of bringing about positive changes in their watershed and helping them decide how they would like to do that (Hayes, 1999). We will then conduct a brainstorming session where participants can identify natural resource issues they think the plan should address and then prioritize them. From this initial meeting a core group of interested stakeholders will form a planning group to carry out the process, guided by the issues identified at the first meeting.

Another early objective will be to conduct an initial assessment of watershed resources. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has committed to conducting a natural and cultural resources inventory of the Kirker Creek Watershed. The inventory will address land use, geology, soils, erosion potential, range, water quality, hydrology, plant communities, wildlife habitat relationships, endangered species, and known cultural resources (USDA, 1997). The inventory will produce a written report and a GIS database. NRCS will also provide a GIS report for the Kirker Creek watershed (USDA, 1999). NRCS will also conduct an Erosion and Sedimentation Study for the watershed. Using the Pacific Southwest Inter-Agency Committee (PSIAC) approach, historical data will enable NRCS to prioritize areas by soils, land use, climate, development, etc. and if improved, suggest a reduction in expected sediment loading. The Contra Costa RCD has a GIS software equipped computer that will be utilized to expand on the NRCS database in accordance with recommendations from the watershed planning group. At some point in the process a watershed survey and stream inventory will be conducted, utilizing a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit to collect information that will be transformed into a GIS data layer. Coyote Creek Stream Assessment Protocols will be used for this project.

The training and coordination of the planning group will be a major objective. After establishing ground rules and defining a mission and vision, the planning group can proceed with identifying stakeholder resource concerns. This work will be achieved by meeting regularly and strictly following the CRMP process, making decisions based only on consensus. The planning group will identify major resource issues and planning objectives based on a sound understanding of problems, resource issues and watershed resource information. At this point the planning group will be able to develop management objectives and identify action items to carry them out. Next, a draft plan will be developed and refined following extensive review. A final draft of the watershed plan will be released to the public with

projects and most critical needs described in order of priority. Once the final plan is released, additional funding will be sought to implement the plan and monitor progress.

#### b. Conceptual Model

The process that will be followed closely for the development of the Kirker Creek Watershed Management Plan is the Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) process. See Attachment 1 for a diagram of the CRMP watershed planning process developed by Contra Costa RCD staff. CRMP is a resource planning, problem-solving and management process that allows for direct participation of everyone concerned with natural resource management in a given planning area (CRMP, 1996). Established in the 1950's by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), there are currently 15 state and federal agencies that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding outlining their authority to engage in and commit resources to CRMP. The concept underlying CRMP is that coordinating resource management strategies results in improved management of resources and minimizes conflicts among land users, landowners, government agencies and interest groups (CRMP, 1996). Using this approach, resource problems are addressed and resolved much more efficiently because efforts are voluntary and cooperative, and because they are based on resource boundaries and not constrained by individual, agency or political boundaries.

This process operates on a local level, but can have far reaching influence. Face to face communication among those who live, work and recreate within the watershed can often resolve the inevitable conflicts that arise from the mixture of diverse interests and goals. Experience has shown that people with diverse viewpoints who voluntarily meet together as a planning group will find common ground as they interact with one another and have a chance to observe resource problems firsthand (CRMP, 1996). Identifying these common interests allows for constructive problem solving through cooperative resource planning.

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will result in progress toward CALFED ERP goals by using an adaptive management approach to address watershed-wide natural resource planning associated with at-risk species, ecosystem processes and biotic communities, habitats, non-native invasive species, as well as sediment and water quality. By approaching management of natural resources on a watershed basis, the health of the entire system and each of the components will be addressed. Participation in the development, implementation and monitoring of the Kirker Creek watershed management activities by local landowners and other watershed stakeholders, including government agencies and academic institutions, is essential to the effective long-term land stewardship of the area.

#### c. Hypotheses Being Tested

The hypotheses being tested is that stakeholders in a watershed can come together to identify and prioritize natural resource concerns by working on a voluntary basis, making decision through consensus to write a watershed management plan that will be a tool for future restoration implementation. This is, in fact currently being tested in various watersheds throughout the nation.

The watershed approach has been advocated by the Environmental Protection Agency and is being implemented at all levels, from the top-down to the bottom-up, throughout the nation. The emphasis of this approach is on bringing the "stakeholders", all the interested and affected parties, together to assess the resources and issues in a given watershed and develop a plan for addressing the most important problems first (Hayes, 1999).

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will give the watershed a much need planning tool from which stakeholders can implement restoration strategies. The watershed inventory will compile information regarding watershed resources that will aid in the planning process. Monitoring the project throughout the process, will provide future watershed planning groups with information on lessons

learned, successes and failures. This project is designed to follow the lead of similar programs that have successfully developed watershed management plans and subsequently implemented restoration activities identified as priorities, without reinventing the wheel (EPA, 1997). The staff of Contra Costa RCD, NRCS, and other participants have experience with watershed planning following the CRMP process and are committed to monitoring this project with a critical eye in order to learn from mistakes made and operate within a flexible framework to yield maximum information and results.

#### d. Adaptive Management

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will result in progress toward CALFED ERP goals by using an adaptive management approach to address watershed-wide natural resource planning associated with at-risk species, ecosystem processes and biotic communities, habitats, non-native invasive species, as well as sediment and water quality. By approaching management of natural resources on a watershed basis, the health of the entire system and each of the components will be addressed.

The conceptual model presented in Attachment 1, the Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) Watershed Planning Process, will be followed closely for the development of the Kirker Creek Watershed Management Plan. CRMP is a resource planning, problem-solving and management process that allows for direct participation of everyone concerned with natural resource management in a given planning area (CRMP, 1996). The very nature of the CRMP process allows for flexibility and an opportunity to proceed as the group sees fit, based on the available information.

The technical advisory committee for the Kirker Creek watershed CRMP recognizes that monitoring is the key to adaptive management. Once the Kirker Creek watershed resources inventory, the GIS database, the stream survey and assessment, and the erosion and sedimentation study have been conducted the group will be able to respond to this new information by incorporating the knowledge into the planning, helping to identify priority areas for restoration. At this point the group will be able to assess, evaluate and adapt their goals, objectives, and action items in order to update and produce a more effective planning tool for subsequent restoration activities. The nature of the CRMP process, with participation from a diverse group, will allow planning group members to learn and network with each other, broadening their base of knowledge on resources within the watershed. Having systems in place to measure and communicate progress is a critical part of watershed work. Progress will be measured in many ways, and communicated through meetings, newsletters, the internet, and press coverage. The important thing will be to make sure that the appropriate measures of progress, or indicators, are selected early on in the process, and that information on these indicators is shared with all relevant stakeholders (EPA, 1997). The long-term success of this effort will depend in large part upon the group's willingness to monitor and evaluate their progress and revise or update the plan to reflect appropriate changes.

#### e. Educational Objectives

The watershed planning process is one that is focused on education and outreach. The idea is that as people educate themselves, they will become better stewards of their natural resources. Through the CRMP process, educating for change starts with providing people with information, getting them involved, and providing feedback and follow-up in order to change the way in which citizens manage their resources. The Contra Costa RCD will also work with the Aquatic Outreach Institute, a non-profit environmental education organization, to develop a master plan for the watershed's awareness program.

Goals of this watershed awareness program are to educate residents about sources of pollution, how land use relates to water quality, ways to inspire people to act on behalf of their community to protect and enhance water resources, create a sense of personal and community stewardship for water resources, and provide the knowledge, resources, and support participants need to effectively understand and address issues involving their local natural resources (Hayes, 1999).

The watershed awareness CRMP program will address CALFED goals by developing a broader understanding of natural resource conservation issues at the individual and community level in the Kirker Creek watershed by making people aware of the issues and involving them in the planning process. The potential audience size is all stakeholders in the watershed, since we will be working cooperatively with the County to develop an extensive mailing database. This group will be a diverse one, including citizens, residential landowners, ranchers, industry, municipalities, and other agencies. The program will include the integration of educational mailings, lectures at regularly scheduled meetings, creek cleanups, and workshops on specific resource topics, which will increase public understanding of the resource issues impairing their watershed.

#### 2. Proposed Scope of Work

#### a. Location and/or Geographic Boundaries of the Project

The Kirker Creek Watershed is located in northeastern Contra Costa County and encompasses the eastern half of the City of Pittsburg. The project is in the Suisun Bay and Marsh CALFED ecozone. The watershed drains approximately 8,000 acres into the San Joaquin River near Browns Island and is one of 23 major watersheds within the county. See Attachment 2 for a map of major watersheds within Contra Costa County. The center of the watershed is approximately 121°52'30" longitude and 38°00' latitude. See Attachment 3 for a USGS 1:100,000 scale map of the Kirker Creek watershed. The watershed lies within the 7<sup>th</sup> State Senate District, the 11<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.

#### b. Approach

The Kirker Creek Watershed planning group will develop the goals, objectives, and methods to be used in the watershed management plan using the CRMP strategy and process. This part of the CRMP, the heart and soul of the watershed planning process, will take well over a year to accomplish. Once the goals, objectives and management tools have been determined, the planning group will begin to work in subcommittees and (with support from the Contra Costa RCD) will begin to write the plan. The draft plan will be submitted for public comment and peer review. Comments, suggestions, and changes will be incorporated as needed. The completion and publication of the final watershed management plan will signify the successful completion of this phase of the project. Contra Costa RCD is requesting funds to employ a watershed coordinator within our organization to devote to this process.

#### c. Monitoring and Assessment Plans

An early objective of the project will be to conduct an initial assessment of watershed resources. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has committed to conducting a natural and cultural resources inventory of the Kirker Creek Watershed. The inventory will address land use, geology, soils, erosion potential, range, water quality, hydrology, plant communities, wildlife habitat relationships, endangered species, and known cultural resources (UDSA, 1997). The inventory will produce a written report and a GIS database. NRCS will also provide a GIS report for the Kirker Creek watershed (USDA, 1999). The Contra Costa RCD has a GIS software equipped computer that will be utilized to expand on the NRCS GIS report's recommendations. NRCS will also conduct an Erosion and Sedimentation Study for the watershed. Using the Pacific Southwest Inter-Agency Committee (PSIAC) approach, historical data will enable NRCS to prioritize areas by soils, land use, climate, development, etc. and if improved, suggest a reduction in expected sediment loading. A watershed survey and stream inventory will also be conducted, utilizing a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit to collect information that will be transformed into a GIS data layer. Coyote Creek Stream Assessment Protocols will be used for this project.

The final inventory and monitoring program will be the development of two GIS models. The first will use aerial photograph interpretations to better assess the distribution and character of the riparian habitat

associated with Kirker Creek. This data combined with the results of the stream assessments will give the planning group a detailed understanding of which riparian areas are in need of restoration and better management. The second model will assess the fire fuel load dangers throughout the watershed. This fuel load model will be useful not only for assessing direct fire hazards, but also for evaluating potential post-fire erosion and water quality consequences.

Monitoring the effectiveness of the implementation of the watershed plan on water quality will require baseline data from which to compare changes. As part of the plan, Contra Costa RCD expects to coordinate volunteer monitoring using students and faculty from local high schools. Staff from Contra Costa RCD will supervise QA/QC.

#### d. Data Handling and Storage

The data associated with the natural resources inventory in the Kirker Creek watershed will be compiled and handled by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. It will be made available to the planning group members as well as all stakeholders in the watershed. The GIS models developed will be handled by and stored within the RCD. They will be an integral part of the planning process. This watershed awareness program emphasizes educational outreach to the community and all efforts will be made to notify and provide informational to all interested parties. The watershed management plan, once complete, will also be made available to all that are interested, with priority being given to stakeholders within the watershed.

#### e. Expected Products/Outcomes

The thrust of this two-year project will be to produce a watershed management plan for the Kirker Creek Watershed. Copies will be made available to stakeholders throughout the watershed. A watershed resources inventory, GIS database and report, an erosion and sedimentation study, and watershed survey and stream inventory will also be produced in cooperation with NRCS. A power point presentation will be developed outlining the planning group's mission, goals and objectives as well as their process and experiences, once appropriate. The GIS data layers and models will contribute to the pool of watershed resource knowledge and give the planning group an exceptional technological tool for future implementation of restoration projects. With the nature of the entire project being educational outreach, the group will host educational workshops and seminars on a variety of specific natural resource management topics.

#### f. Work Schedule

#### Task 1: Project Management and Administration

Provide technical and administrative services; review work performed; coordinate budget and schedule; administer subcontracts; write progress reports; conduct annual audit.

#### Task 2: Inform Landowners

Inform landowners, citizens, and residents of intent to develop a watershed management plan. Create mailing list database of all landowners within the watershed; plan initial public meeting; design, print and mail fliers announcing public meeting; distribute press releases; create interactive agenda; conduct public meetings; produce and mail quarterly updates to watershed landowners.

#### Task 3: Conduct Inventory and Monitoring

Conduct natural resources inventory and monitoring of the watershed. Produce watershed resources inventory, produce an erosion and sedimentation study, and produce watershed survey and stream inventory in cooperation with NRCS. Design geographical information system (GIS) database; obtain data and information; create layers for GIS database; purchase data layers; conduct GIS modeling; research existing information; write, edit, and publish written report; assess stream and riparian functioning using Rapid Riparian Assessment protocols; conduct water quality monitoring using volunteers.

#### Task 4: Form Planning Group

Form, train and convene planning group; provide opportunity for citizens to join planning group; choose planning group members; train planning group members in fundamentals of CRMP process, including consensus decision making; train planning group members in relevant natural resource management issues; develop procedural guidelines; support ongoing activities of planning group.

#### Task 5: Develop Goals and Objectives

Develop mission statement; hire facilitator to assist planning group in developing natural resource management goals; develop measurable objectives for each goal; develop tools and mechanisms to achieve objectives.

#### Task 6: Write Plan

Write the draft watershed management plan; seek comments and edits from public and peers; write, publish and distribute final plan; periodically review and update plan.

Task	Description	Start Date	Completion Date
Task 1	Project Management and Administration	January 2001	January 2003
Task 2	Inform Landowners	February 2001	June 2003
Task 3	Conduct Inventory and Monitoring	February 2001	June 2003
Task 4	Form Planning Group	March 2001	July 2001
Task 5	Develop Goals and Objectives	July 2001	December 2001
Task 6	Write Plan	January 2002	November 2002

#### g. Feasibility

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program has received tremendous support from local ranchers, residential landowners, Contra Costa County Farm Bureau, Contra Costa County, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, East Bay Regional Park District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Dow Chemical Company, City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Watershed Forum, and Friends of the Creek, making success a likely prospect. See attached letters of support from the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, Dow Chemical, and East Bay Regional Park District. The Contra Costa RCD and participants are committed to the CRMP process and it has proven to be a successful planning tool for numerous watershed planning groups throughout the state, making the approach not only feasible, but highly appropriate for this type of project. The CRMP handbook and other resources listed provide the framework for a successful project, as well as lessons learned from groups that have come before. Two years is the average time it has taken watershed planning groups to complete this process, and with our current experience with the CALFED-funded Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP, this is an appropriate amount of time to complete such a process.

No permits or agreements are necessary for tasks described to be completed. There are no other foreseeable constraints that could impact the schedule of the project since it is focused on voluntary participation. The process operates strictly on consensus based decision making and therefore the nature and approach to resolving outstanding differences is the thrust of the project. Varied stakeholders coming together to decide on natural resource priorities for the watershed is the basis for the watershed management plan coming together and the very nature of the CRMP process. The project does not require access to private property. With our recent experience in the Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP, our RCD's track record for carrying out successful projects for 59 years, and the broad based support the project has received, success is highly likely.

# D. Applicability to CALFED ERP Goals and Implementation Plan and CVPIA Priorities 1. ERP Goals and CVPIA Priorities

The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program will result in progress toward CALFED ERP goals by using an adaptive management approach to address watershed-wide natural resource planning associated with at-risk species, ecosystem processes and biotic communities, habitats, non-native invasive species, as well

as sediment and water quality. By approaching management of natural resources on a watershed basis. the health of the entire system and each of the components will be addressed. The watershed supports a number of rare, threatened, and endangered species including California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, San Joaquin kit fox, San Joaquin pocket mouse, Large-flowered fiddleneck, Delta tule pea. Mason's lileaeopsis, burrowing owl, Alameda whipsnake, as well as waterfowl, shorebirds, and migratory birds. The Kirker Creek watershed includes shaded riverine aquatic habitat, instream aquatic habitat, tidal perennial aquatic habitat, and saline emergent aquatic habitat. The Kirker Creek watershed encompasses many of the resource issues typical of the wildland-urban interface. Most of the upper watershed is still actively grazed. Mid portions of the watershed are experiencing heavy development pressures. The lower portion of the watershed has a mosaic of residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Each of these uses is impacting the resources within the watershed. The watershed management plan will address each of these issues by developing conservation measures, which will be applied through voluntary, cooperative programs. The watershed suffers from many stressors associated with extensive development of watershed lands including roads, mining, industry, and housing developments that have resulted in ecosystem degradation and fundamental changes in runoff and sediment dynamics. These changes have significantly altered the wetland and riparian communities and associated wildlife habitats. The watershed planning process will allow these stressors and their impacts to be addressed by stakeholders themselves, empowering the community to be involved in local resource management and planning. Once resource issues and planning objectives are identified based on watershed data collection, management objectives and action items to carry out these objectives can be identified. The watershed management plan will allow stakeholders to identify watershed restoration actions that improve water quality, reduce non-point source pollution, reduce sediment loading, restore riparian, wetland, and terrestrial habitat, and maintain and/or enhance at-risk species populations, as well as the ecological health of all the components within the watershed.

#### 2. Relationship to Other Ecosystem Restoration Projects

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District has garnered the support of several local landowners, residents, civic groups, industry, and local municipalities in the creation of the Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP. The watershed planning process will allow the stakeholders to become more informed by gaining a better understanding of historical and current conditions as well as all relevant restoration projects. The planning process will lay the foundation for future implementation projects. This projects complements the ongoing efforts of the Dow Wetlands and Environmental Team at the mouth of Kirker Creek. The 150-acre tidal marsh and upland grassland may be expanded to accommodate the sediment laden peak flows coming down Kirker Creek. The potential for wetlands restoration in the lower reach of creek is great. The Dow Wetlands Preserve hopes to eventually house a visitor center and outreach program to teach the residents of the watershed about their natural resources. Dow is very supportive of our watershed planning efforts on Kirker Creek and hopes that stakeholders can take more of a system wide approach to sediment reduction, non-point source pollution and flooding, since the flows at the mouth are a reflection of runoff from the entire watershed. Water quality improvement efforts are also underway in the headwaters in the East Bay Regional Park District (Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve). The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program complements current efforts both at the mouth and in the headwaters of Kirker Creek. With the lessons we are learning from our current CALFED grant funded work in the Alhambra Creek Watershed, the Contra Costa RCD will be able to utilize adaptive management strategies providing increased opportunities to enhance our understanding of ecosystem processes as well as the watershed management process. This flexible management framework will allow the group to incorporate successful watershed planning efforts with their own ideas, while staying abreast of new developments in the ever-changing watershed world and incorporating relevant information. The Kirker Creek Watershed Management Plan will be developed utilizing the knowledge from past project successes and failures, while providing the foundation for future restoration projects.

#### 3. Request for Next-Phase Funding

Not Applicable

#### 4. Previous Recipients of CALFED or CVPIA Funding

The Contra Costa Resource Conservation District received a CALFED grant through the May 1998 Ecosystem Restoration Solicitation. The Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP Program (CALFED # 98-E17) was funded for \$138,500 for a two-year period. The project is currently at the half way point, on time and on budget. To date, the Alhambra Creek Watershed Planning Group's efforts have provided support for the following:

- Based on a resource concern identified in the planning process, the group successfully obtained a SWRCB 319 grant for early implementation of the plan. This on the ground restoration project will increase water quality by reducing peak flows and decreasing sediment and other pollutants in a subbasin of the watershed.
- The City of Martinez took successful preventative steps to cope with El Nino flooding.
- Congressional support helped secure funding for the Martinez downtown flood control project.
- Downtown property owners overwhelmingly voted to assess themselves to help complete the financing of the project.
- The flooding project is being designed with up-to-date understanding of watershed and stream dynamics in mind (working with nature rather than against).
- Using funding from a CALFED grant, we have hired a full time Watershed Coordinator, to pull together these efforts and to perform many of the staff functions needed to support the work of the committees and of the planning group as a whole. We have made considerable progress and expect to produce a watershed plan in the fall of 2000.
- A Proper Functioning Condition Workshop was conducted to teach residents and planning group members how to assess riparian functions.
- A logo contest was held for local students. First prize was a field trip for the student's entire class providing watershed education activities.
- A stream inventory was conducted to map the stream using a GPS unit and collect baseline data to
  assess the size and scope of the problems in the watershed. This involved a large landowner contact
  effort. Residents are very enthusiastic about improving creek conditions and stabilizing their stream
  banks.
- A GIS database has been created and is constantly being improved to better understand and manage the watershed resources. NRCS recently completed a report on our GIS. To see our current work go to our web site at http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/alhambra.html

#### 5. System-Wide Ecosystem Benefits

Since Kirker Creek drains approximately 8,000 acres of watershed lands into the San Joaquin River, developing a watershed plan identifying restoration opportunities will benefit not only the watershed itself, but the entire Suisun Bay and Marsh. This is one of 23 major watersheds in Contra Costa County. The awareness that the educational outreach component of this project, in cooperation with the Alhambra Creek Watershed Program, can offer will serve as models for other watersheds in the county and throughout the region. Developing a broader understanding of natural resource conservation issues at the local level can have far reaching impacts, both in influencing the way individuals interact with their environment and by implementing physical change with on the ground restoration actions that benefit all the watershed's components – soil, air, water, plants, animals, and people. The Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP complements the efforts of the Dow Wetlands and Environmental Team at the mouth of the creek, the City of Pittsburg's flood control efforts, and the water quality efforts of the East Bay Regional Park District (Black Diamond Mines) in headwaters. Together these stakeholders along with others, can sit down and establish ways for their projects to enhance one another, while prioritizing needs for future natural resource restoration projects that will benefit the watershed as well as the Bay Delta ecosystem.

#### E. Qualifications

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District, established in 1941, is an independent special district dedicated to assisting private landowners with the technical and educational expertise required to wisely manage their natural resources. Like other resource conservation districts, Contra Costa RCD is organized under Division IX of the State Resources Code. Working through cooperative, voluntary programs, Contra Costa RCD provides technical advice and administers programs to conserve soil and water resources. Traditionally working with farmers and ranchers, the RCD has reached out to a wide variety of interest groups in recent years. Contra Costa RCD has no conflict of interest with the goals and objectives of the CALFED Bay Delta Program.

The District is governed by five elected Directors who play an active role in planning and implementing the District's programs. Two of our Directors are engineers, one a Registered Professional Forester, one an entomologist, and another a local farmer. The District employs a full time Resource Conservationist, a half time Administrative Assistant, and a CALFED grant funded two year Watershed Coordinator. The Resource Conservationist implements all technical programs and public outreach activities. The Administrative Assistant manages the office and District's finances. The Watershed Coordinator for the Alhambra Creek Watershed provides technical and administrative support to the efforts of the planning group and the development of the watershed plan.

The Resource Conservationist, Laura Cossey, graduated from UC Berkeley with a BS from the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management with a focus on water resources. Prior to her work at the RCD, Laura worked for UC Cooperative Extension Forestry. Laura was selected to spend a semester on the island of Moorea, French Polynesia, at UC's Gump Biological Research Station. There she designed and conducted independent scientific research on the effects of coastal tourism developments on coral reef health and diversity. Including the scientific paper that resulted from this research, Laura has four publications to date. While at Berkeley she worked for several departments including Geology and Geophysics, Resource Institutions, Policy, and Management, and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Since employed with the Contra Costa RCD, Laura has successfully obtained grant funding and implemented several programs including the Equestrian Facilities Project, the CIMIS weather station, Yellow Starthistle Control Video and Outreach Campaign, as well as various Environmental Education programs.

Contra Costa RCD has successfully implemented grant-funded programs throughout its 59-year history. The RCD worked cooperatively with the Soil Conservation Service and the Contra Costa Flood Control District to develop many of the flood control projects throughout the county. Contra Costa RCD was one of the first districts to supply new water conservation technologies to local farmers. Among the programs successfully implemented over the past eighteen years are:

- 1982-83 \$40,000 grant from the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop Best Management Practices for agricultural activities. Grant products provided on time.
- 1982 \$3,000 grant from California Department of Education to develop elementary level curricula fro soil conservation. Curricula developed on time and in current use.
- 1983-Present Management of California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)
  weather station to assist local farmers with proper application of irrigation water. Weather
  information used regularly and provided to all inquiring. (Mark Rivera 916-227-7603)
- 1985-86 \$50,000 contract from the Association of Bay Area Governments to develop educational materials discussing best management practices for equestrian facilities. Contract completed on time. The pamphlet produced has been distributed throughout the State.

- 1993-97 \$50,000 grant from the San Francisco Estuary Program to install a grazing demonstration project at Wildcat Canyon Regional Park showing techniques to reduce water quality impacts from grazing and promote perennial grasslands. The grant was extended one year to allow for greater public outreach activities. The grant was completed within the new time frame, despite changes in personnel at a critical juncture. (Tim Vendlinski 415-744-1989)
- 1994-97 \$237,000 grant awarded from the Bureau of Reclamation for 3 year Total Resource Management Outreach Program to provide information to local farmers about potential resource conservation techniques and to inform the public about the efforts and progress farmers are making to conserve resources. (Elizabeth Reifsnider 926-978-5038)
- 1996-97 \$12,000 grant from the California Department of Conservation to facilitate the formation of a citizens planning group to develop a watershed management plan for the Alhambra Creek watershed. The grant was completed on schedule with all project goals and objectives completely achieved. (Kathy Davis 916-327-2145)
- 1997-98 \$15,000 grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to augment GIS database of the Alhambra Creek watershed and compensate staff time allocated to the development of the watershed plan. The grant began in September 1997. (Jim Geiger 916-653-8286)
- 1998-99 \$10,000 grant from the California Department of Conservation to compensate GIS technician to perform work associated with the GIS database of the Alhambra Creek watershed. (Kathy Davis 916-327-2145)
- 1998 \$5,000 partnership grant from the Contra Costa Clean Water Program, Contra Costa County, and the City of Martinez to enable the RCD to continue the Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) program in the Alhambra Creek Watershed until a signed contract with CALFED was finalized. (Don Freitas 925-313-2377)
- 1998-Present \$138,500 CALFED grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was awarded to facilitate, coordinate, and support the efforts of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, and citizens of the Alhambra Creek watershed to develop and write a watershed management plan using the Coordinated Resource Management Planning (CRMP) process. A watershed coordinator was hired to assist the planning group in this process. (Cheryl Lovato Niles 415-778-0999)

## F. Cost 1. Budget

CALFED Requested Amount	\$198,450
Committed Matching Contributions	\$241,895
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT	\$440,345

Contra Costa RCD is requesting \$198,450 from the CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program to aid in the development of a natural resources management plan for the Kirker Creek Watershed. With these funds Contra Costa RCD will hire a watershed coordinator who will dedicate his/her full time to the development of the plan. The salary and benefits for the watershed coordinator will be \$17.61/hour for the first year and \$19.37 the second year. As this project will develop a watershed management plan, the majority of the costs are associated with participant's time. The development of the natural resources management plan for the Kirker Creek watershed will involve a number of municipalities, agencies, organizations, and citizens. Unless otherwise known, the Contra Costa RCD assigns a value of \$30/hour for participant's time involving this project. Other costs include the facilitation of the planning process, production of the plan once complete, training for watershed coordinator, planning group members and other stakeholders, and conducting data collection and integrating into GIS data layers.

Contra Costa RCD charges 12.5% overhead to compensate for infrastructure costs (rent, phone, fax, etc.) and additional costs associated with administration of the grant (annual audits). There are no operation and maintenance costs associated with this project.

#### Task 1: Project Management and Administration

Costs associated with project management and administration includes staff time to prepare reports and necessary requirements and rental of photocopy machine. The RCD will provide matching contributions for staff and Director's time. NRCS will provide vehicles for travel.

#### Task 2: Inform Landowners

This task provides the critical link of maintaining communication with all landowners within the watershed. Initial contact with the landowners and the first public meeting will be aided by matching contributions from Contra Costa County, allowing the RCD to contact *all* landowners within the watershed. Contra Costa RCD requests funding to produce quarterly newsletters to be mailed to landowners, as well as other interested parties.

#### Task 3: Conduct Inventory and Monitoring

As part of the planning process NRCS will conduct an inventory of existing information regarding the natural and cultural resources found within the watershed. The inventory will produce a written report and a Geographic Information System (GIS). The RCD will purchase additional data layers. NRCS will also conduct an erosion and sedimentation study in the watershed. NRCS is providing further matching contributions by choosing to use Kirker Creek as a training site for teaching federal staff as well as the planning group members the Proper Functioning Condition Riparian Assessment Protocol. Contra Costa RCD requests additional funds to develop two GIS models, allow RCD staff to assist in the Proper Functioning Condition training, to conduct a GPS-based stream survey and assessment, and to design and implement a volunteer water quality monitoring program, working with local school districts.

#### Task 4: Form Planning Group

The bulk of this task will be accomplished through several meetings where the planning group structure, composition, and procedures will be determined. Staff will help organize, coordinate, and facilitate this work. The RCD will provide matching contributions through in-kind support.

#### Task 5: Develop Goals and Objectives

This task represents the heart of the CRMP process and requires extensive time commitments from RCD staff and planning group members. Contra Costa RCD requests funds to pay for a full time watershed coordinator to assist the planning group throughout the two-year process and a part time facilitator to aid in the development of the planning group's goals and objectives, the core of the watershed plan. This task will also provide educational training to staff and planning group members, in order to understand the resource issues at hand.

#### Task 6: Write Plan

This task will fund staff time to write the actual natural resources management plan for the Kirker Creek watershed, incorporate edits, write the final plan, and provide for production costs associated with printing and distribution of the final plan.

#### 2. Cost-Sharing

CALFED Requested Amount	\$198,450
Committed Matching Contributions	\$241,895
TOTAL PROJECT AMOUNT	\$440,345

Matching contributions far outweigh the requested funding amount. It is estimated that \$241,895 will be contributed toward the project by its cooperators. The majority of the matching funds are in-kind contributions. Please see the attached budget for a detailed listing of matching contributions from others, including the Contra Costa RCD, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the planning group. NRCS will provide vehicles for travel needs. The development of the natural resources management plan for the Kirker Creek watershed will involve a number of municipalities, agencies, organizations, and citizens, some of which have not been identified yet. Therefore, the matching contributions will most likely exceed the amount specified above.

#### G. Local Involvement

The development of the watershed plan is a collaborative process, involving the participation of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industry, and citizens from the area. Interest in participating and collaborating in this project has received broad based community support and includes local ranchers, residential landowners, Contra Costa County Farm Bureau, Contra Costa County, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, East Bay Regional Park District, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Dow Chemical Company, City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Watershed Forum, and Friends of the Creek. See attached letters of support from the City of Pittsburg, Contra Costa Clean Water Program, Dow Chemical, and East Bay Regional Park District. The development of a Technical Advisory Committee is underway and participation by several state, federal and local agencies as well as other community groups is expected. Our current CALFED funded Alhambra Creek Watershed CRMP has received tremendous local support and its successes have paved the way for Kirker Creek to generate the same level of interest and participation, fostering community involvement.

An early objective in the process will be to inform *all* landowners in the watershed of our intent to facilitate the development of a watershed management plan. This task will be accomplished through the cooperative efforts of the Contra Costa County Assessors office and the Contra Costa RCD. After creating an extensive mailing database, thousands of fliers will be sent to *every* landowner within the watershed announcing the first public meeting. Our objectives here will be to help community members realize that they could be a part of bringing about positive changes in their watershed and helping them decide how they would like to do that. We will also conduct a brainstorming session where participants can identify natural resource issues they think the plan should address and then prioritize them.

Because the watershed plan has yet to be developed, it is impossible to quantify any potential third party impacts. The plan will be implemented on a *completely voluntary basis*; therefore negative third party impacts are not anticipated. Some positive third party impacts may occur, including improved property values due to improved natural habitats, reduction of flooding damages, and reduced risk of catastrophic wild fires within the watershed, improved financial opportunities for landowners to implement conservation plans associated with the watershed plan, and improved educational curriculum through local school involvement.

#### H. Compliance with Standard Terms and Conditions

The Contra Costa Resource Conservation District will comply with state and federal standard terms and conditions.

#### I. Literature Cited

- Alhambra Creek Watershed Phase II GIS Development, Final Report. USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1999.
- Alhambra Creek Watershed Resources Inventory, Contra Costa County. USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 1997.
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- California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database. California Department of Fish and Game website, 2000.
- Clean Water in Your Watershed: A Citizen's Guide to Watershed Protection. Terrene Institute.
- Getting to Know Your Local Watershed A Guide for Watershed Partnerships. Know Your Watershed, coordinated by the Conservation Technology Information Center, 1998.
- How to Start a Watershed Awareness Program. Hayes, Anne and Chatfield, Brenda. Aquatic Outreach Institute, 1999.
- Napa River Watershed Owner's Manual: An Integrated Resource Management Plan. Napa County Resource Conservation District, 1993.
- Petaluma Watershed Enhancement Plan: An owner's manual for the residents and landowners of the Petaluma Watershed. Southern Sonoma Resource Conservation District in conjunction with the people of the Petaluma Watershed, 1999.
- Putting Together a Watershed Management Plan A Guide for Watershed Partnerships. Know Your Watershed, coordinated by the Conservation Technology Information Center, 1998.
- Some Suggested Guidelines for Geomorphic Aspects of Anadromous Salmonid Habitat Restoration Proposals. Kondolf, Mathias. Restoration Ecology, V8, N1, pp 48-56.
- Sonoma Creek Watershed Enhancement Plan: An owner's manual for the residents of the Sonoma Creek Watershed. Southern Sonoma Resource Conservation District in conjunction with the people of the Petaluma Watershed, 1997.
- Top 10 Watershed Lessons Learned. Ficks, Ben. USEPA, Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, 1997.
- Total Maximum Daily Loads Program, California List of Impaired Waters for 1998. USEPA's Office of Water website, 2000.

hlo 1	Kirker	Table 1 Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program Annual and Total Budget	and Total	al Budget					
-  -  -  -					gns	Subject to Overhead	ad		
			Direct						
			Labor	Salary and		Supplies &	Service	Overhead	
Year	Task	Description of Task	Hours	Benefits	Travel	Expendables	Contracts	(12.5%)	Total Cost
1	Task 1	Project Management & Admin.	200	\$3,522	\$1,500	005\$	\$3,200		\$9,812
_		Requested	100	\$1,761	\$0	0\$	\$2,000	\$1,0	\$4,851
		CCRCD Match	100	\$1,761	\$0	\$200	0\$	\$0	\$2,261
		NRCS	0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,200	0\$	\$2,700
	1001	Inform   andownore	200	\$4.377	\$0	\$2,300	\$500	\$897	\$8,074
	1 45h 4	Regulasted	180	\$2,377	\$0	\$1,800		\$812	\$5,489
		CCRCD Match	20	\$2,000	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$85	\$2,585
	6.7	Andread Instruction, 9. Monitoring	1200	\$28.451	\$2.000	\$4.950	\$7.000	\$5,300	\$47,701
	I ask o	Collucted Boniested	669	\$12,309	\$0				\$26,184
		CCBCD Match	150	\$2.642	\$0		\$0		\$6,017
		NRCS NAME OF THE PROPERTY OF T	450	\$13,500	\$2,000			0\$	\$15,500
	Tock 4	Form Diaming Group	80	\$1.410	\$0	\$950	\$0	\$295	\$2,655
	1 4 A C B	Dominator	40	\$705				\$150	\$1,705
		CCRCD Match	40	\$705		\$100			\$950
		NRCS	0	\$0	\$50		0\$	0\$	\$20
++*-	Tack	Develor Goale & Objectives	3900	\$67.428	\$3.800	\$1,500	\$3,250	\$9,497	\$85,475
	- age	Regiested	2750		\$0	\$300	\$3,250		\$36,978
		CCRCD Match	100		\$0	\$1,200	\$0	\$4,4	\$13,197
		NBCS	200		\$3,800	\$0	0\$		\$9,800
		Planning Group	850	99	\$0			0\$	\$25,500
1	Tack 6	Write Plan	1200	\$23,545	\$0	\$350	0\$	\$2,987	\$26,882
,	2 HORI	Regiested	400			\$350	0\$		\$4,095
		CCRCD Match	100			\$0		\$1,7	\$6,787
		NRCS	50	\$1,500	ဇွ		\$0		\$1,500
		Planning Group	650	\$14,500	0\$	\$0		တ္တ	\$14,500
	Oilnt Re	Total Amount Reguested (Year 1)		\$48,125	\$0	\$6,250	\$12,750	\$12,177	\$79,302
	mmitted	Total Committed Match (Year 1)		\$80,608	\$7,350				\$101,347
500000000000000000000000000000000000000	5	(,)							000000

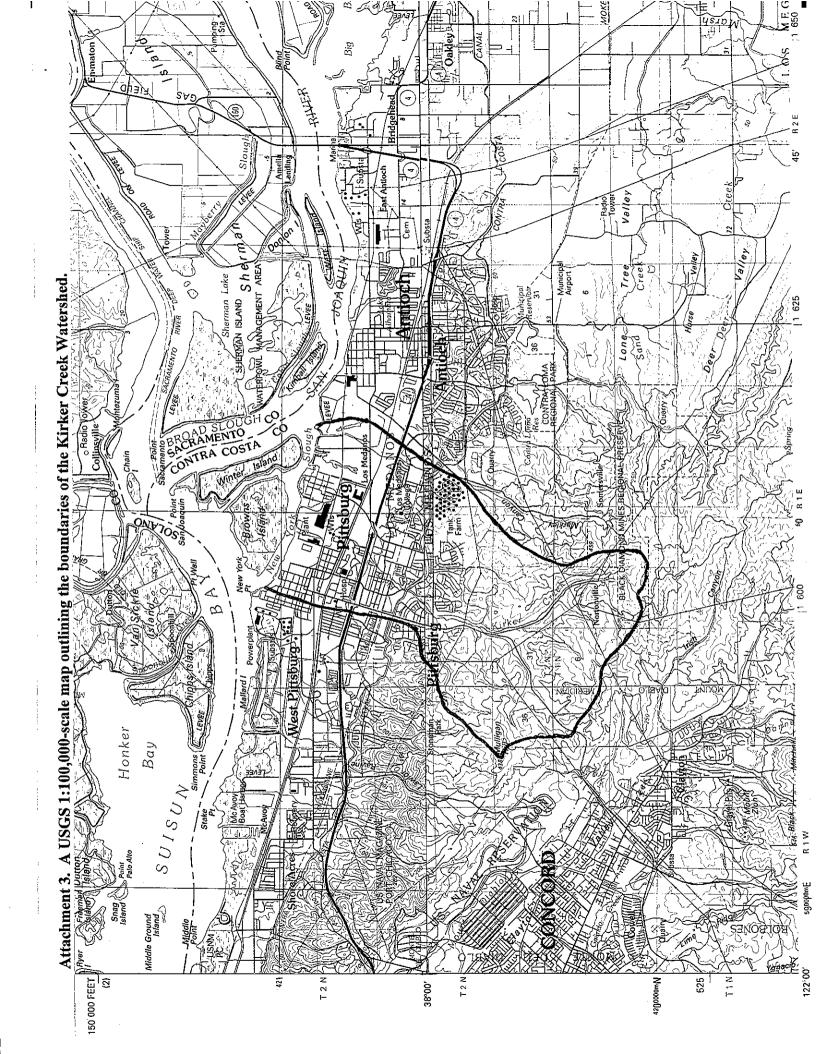
Year 2 Task 1	Project Management and Admin.	250	\$4,842	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$3,950	\$1,662	\$14,954
		125	\$2,421	\$0	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$662	\$8,083
	CCRCD Match	125	\$2,421	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$1,000	\$3,921
	NRCS	0	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,450	0\$	\$2,950
Task 2	Inform Landowners	275	\$5,327	\$0	\$5,500	\$2,000	\$1,603	\$14,430
	Requested	250	\$4,843	\$0	\$4,500	\$2,000	\$1,603	\$12,946
	CCRCD Match	25	\$484	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,484
Task 3	Conduct Inventory and Monitoring	1050	\$28,843	\$1,200	\$5,500	\$19,500	\$6,880	\$61,923
	1	150	\$2,906	\$0	\$5,500	\$10,000	\$200	\$18,906
	CCRCD Match	100	\$1,937	\$0	\$0	0\$	\$6,380	\$8,317
	NECS	550	\$16,500	\$1,200	0\$	\$9,500	\$0	\$27,200
	Planning Group	250	\$7,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$7,500
Task 4	Form Planning Group	0	0\$	\$0	\$0	0\$	\$0	\$0
	Requested	0	80	\$0	\$0	90	\$0	\$0
	CCRCD Match	0	\$0	<b>8</b>	\$0	0\$	\$0	\$0
	NRCS	0	\$0	\$0	0\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
i i	Douglan Goals and Objectives	3200	\$84.524	\$3.500	006\$	\$4.025	\$11,619	\$104,568
- ASA D		1500	\$31.055	င္တ	006\$	\$4,025	\$5,000	\$40,980
	CCRCD Match	20	\$3,969	\$0	\$0	0\$	\$6,619	\$10,588
	NRCS	100	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$0	0\$	\$0	\$6,500
	Planning Group	1550	\$46,500	\$0	0\$	\$0	\$0	\$46,500
Tack 6	Write Plan	099	\$41,313	0\$	\$150	\$15,000	\$7,058	\$63,521
	Reguested	260	\$22,033	0\$	\$150	\$15,000	\$1,050	\$38,233
	CCRCD Match	40	\$3,780	\$	\$0	\$0	\$6,308	\$10,088
	NRCS	15	\$450	0\$	0\$	\$0	0\$	\$450
	Planning Group	335	\$15,050	\$0	\$0	\$0	<b>\$</b>	\$15,050
Total Amount Requested (Year 2)	guested (Year 2)		\$63,258	\$0	\$13,550	\$33,525	\$8,815	\$119,148
Total Committed Match (Year 2)	Match (Year 2)		\$101,591	\$6,200	\$1,500	\$10,950	\$20,307	\$140,548
Total Cost Year 2			\$164,849	\$6,200	\$15,050	\$44,475	\$28,822	\$259,396
CALFED Requested Amount	sted Amount		\$111,383	\$0	\$19,800	\$46,275	\$20,992	\$198,450
Committed Match	Committed Matching Contributions		\$182,199	\$13,550	\$5,800	\$12,150	\$28,196	\$241,895
Total Project Amount	nount		\$293,582	\$13,500	\$25,600	\$58,425	\$48,593	\$440,345

#### Scientifically monitor restoration Monitor the success of your plan. Develop management objectives and identif Promote plan to community through objective. Include consensus "watershed day" community event. action items to carry to public. Set regular times for review of released draft addressing stakeholder proposed actions for each Final Discuss and decide upon plan and revise as needed items in the draft plan. and watershed processes. out objectives. Identify format for interests such as the regular stakeholder nature and type of meetings Attachment 1. THE CRMP WATERSHED PLANNING PROCESS commitment from all carrying out the plan. Monitor: document. This stakeholders in Sign the final shows the collected resource and the degree of seriousness using understanding of resource issues, Form a sound information interests, concerns, problems, resource issues Check against list of issues, stakeholder Check for inconsistencies solutions to ensure they concerns and proposed Identify have all been address and contradictions Develop and review a draft plan. Include funding resource issues Review the plan: Identify major Name of group, location, area involved for preparation of detailed plans, environmental and planning Actions and implementation strategy (land ownership, including acreage) vision/ goals objectives. mission and Other issues and opportunities Define Description of planning area Be sure to include key elements: Monitoring procedures evaluation and implementation. List of participants List of concerns Decide on guidelines for the review process. making process consensus and Hold public forum. guidelines for Objectives Establish accomplish actions to the decision Implement the plan. ground rules Develop Choose easy to build success. committee steering Identify Collect watershed information: historical changes in land use. Develop a characteristics, land uses, tends, people, history, all known economics, maps, physical features, previous studies, and most critical needs in order of priority. stream assessment conduct inventory GIS if possible. Collect data on history, natural State actions, projects assess watershed Seek funds to implement. projects and conditions Promote the plan. stakeholders Identify and involve

Topography-Hydrology Map CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CALIFORNIA SUISUN BAY STRAITS CONTRA COSTA COUNTY CAROUNEZ MAJOR WATERSHEDS PABLO BAY SAN FRANCISCO BAT

Attachment 2. A Map of Major Watersheds in Contra Costa County.

AASI MEP PEFFELO ES FOI Contre Colin County Planning Reference Absentitation Editoring Marients







April 26, 2000

Thomas D. Brumleve, President Contra Costa Resource Conservation District 5552 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94521

Dear Tom,

On behalf of the Management Committee of the Contra Costa Clean Water Program, we applaud your efforts in continuing to address the importance of watershed planning in the county. With the success of your current CALFED funded Alhambra Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) Program and the strong local support that it has received, we are certain the Kirker Creek Watershed planning efforts will be equally valuable. We recognize by addressing the watershed as a whole, all of its components soil, air, water, plants, animals, the people will benefit.

We support the submittal of your CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program grant proposal to facilitate, coordinate, and support the efforts of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industries, and citizens of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop and write a watershed management plan using the CRMP process. By using a stakeholder-based process of local control, consensus based decision-making, and voluntary implementation, the Kirker Creek Watershed Planning Group will be able to address natural resource problems including restoration of wetland and riparian communities, prevention of soil erosion, reduction of non-point source pollution, reduction of flooding, and the preservation of property rights by engaging local landowners and other watershed stakeholders.

We appreciate your commitment to provide educational and technical assistance to landowners, in an ongoing effort to promote conservation in order to protect surface and ground water quality in streams and watersheds throughout the county.

**∕Ye**ry truly yours,

Donald P. Freitas Program Manager

Contra Costa Clean Water Program

DPF:mg

255 Glacier Drive, Martinez, CA 94553-4897 • Tel: (925) 313-2360 Fax (925) 313-2301 • E-mail: cccwp@pw.co.contra-costa.ca.us

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jean Siri Ward 1

Ward 7

May 4, 2000

Thomas Brumleve, President Contra Costa Resource Conservation District 5552 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94521

Subject:

Kirker Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management Plan

(CRMP)

Dear Mr. Brumleve:

On behalf of the East Bay Regional Park District (District), I am pleased to offer this letter in support of your efforts to obtain a CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program grant to finance development of a CRMP for the Kirker Creek Watershed. As you are aware, the District is an open space stakeholder within many watersheds of the East Bay including Kirker Creek (Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve) and has been participating in other CRMP processes both in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties.

The CRMP process which includes stakeholders based participation, concerns-based decision making and voluntary implementation has been gaining significant local and regional acceptance as a valuable planning process with an anticipated high likelihood of success. Integral to the process is a consideration of important watershed attributes such as open space and wildlife habitat values, opportunities to improve water quality, reduction of flooding and preservation of property rights. Watershed inhabitants as well as the environmental resources stand to benefit from this focused comprehensive planning process.

We, therefore, support your efforts to facilitate, coordinate and focus the efforts of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industries and citizens of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop a watershed plan utilizing the CRMP process.

Sincerely.

Pat O'Brien

General Manager

cc: Laura Cossey, RCD



# CITY OF PITTSBURG - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT 65 Civic Avenue - P.O. Box 1518, Pittsburg, CA 94565

(925) 252-4920, Fax: 252-4814

May 10, 2000

Thomas D. Brumleve, President Contra Costa Resource Conservation District 5552 Clayton Road Concord, CA 94521

RE: KIRKER CREEK WATERSHED CRMP PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Brumleve:

Based on our conversation May 8, 2000, we understand the importance of watershed planning and recognize the value of involving an array of stakeholders in becoming familiar with the dynamics of our local watershed. We feel a successful watershed planning group can result in an overall increase in awareness of water quality and basic functions associated with the local environment.

Furthermore, we see this as an outreach to the public that may have a positive result in our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. We are aware of the Contra Costa Clean Water Program's support of the ongoing CALFED funded Alhambra Creek Watershed Coordinated Resource Management and Planning (CRMP) program, and the support they have shown for the proposed Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP program. We are pleased to see such a pro-active program interested in our natural resources, and the education being made available to our City and County residents.

We appreciate your commitment in pursuing input from the various stakeholders and their respective beliefs in resource management and planning within the Kirker Creek Watershed.

Sincerely.

Kenneth W. Strelo

City of Pittsburg Stormwater Program Coordinator

Joint Municipal NPDES Permit



The Dow Chemical Company P.O. Box 1398 Pittsburg, California 94565 510 • 432-5000

May 4, 2000

CALFED.

Re: Kirker Creek Watershed Program

On behalf of the Dow Chemical Company Wetlands and Environmental Team, we fully support the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District application for a grant to study the Kirker Creek Watershed program using the Coordinated Resources Management and Planning (CRMP) process.

The Dow Wetlands Team maintains 250 acres of tidal and seasonal wetlands that border Kirker Creek as it enters the river. We are in the process of creating another 30 acre seasonal wetland in conjunction with the ongoing City of Pittsburg Flood control project. The City of Pittsburg project addresses the flood prone portion of Kirker Creek north of Highway 4, it does not address the whole watershed and especially the largest portion of the watershed south of the city.

Our hope is that a comprehensive study of all watershed components, will recommend actions that are both beneficial to the health of the creek, it's plants and animals, and the citizens living in close proximity to the creek. We also hope that changes to the creek would show some significant flood control and water quality benefits.

Regards,

Krist Jensen

Dow Wetlands Team Leader

(925) 432-5461

WKJensen@dow.com

#### NONDISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

STD. 19 (REV. 3-95)

COMPANY NAME

#### Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

The company named above (herinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, physical disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age (over 40), marital status, denial of family care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

JD Brumlew	
Thomas D. Brumleve	
DATE EXECUTED	EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF
May 10, 2000	Contra Costa County
PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SHONATURE	
PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE	
Board President	
PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESSNAME	
Contra Costa Resource Conser	vation District

					OMB Appro	oval No. 0348-004
APPLICAT			2. DATE SUBMITTE	<u> </u>	Applicant Identifier	
FEDERAL	ASSISTAN	ICE	May 10,		7 Spinoaria localisto	
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Legal Name: C	ontra Co	sta Resource	Conservati	O DOrganizational Unit:		
D:	istrict		·	Name and telephone	number of person to be contacted	on matters involv
	<i>ty, county, State,</i> layton R		tra Costa	this application/give a	<sup>nrea code)</sup> Laura Cosse	on matters arrow
	d, CA 94			/ /	(925) 672-6522 ex	; y
Concor	u, CA 94	J21 COU!	1 L y		· ·	
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	🗓 New	Continuation	Revision	D. Township	K. Indian Tribe	
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				F. Intermunicipal	M. Profit Organization	
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b. Applicant \$ 66,1		•		S FOR REVIEW ON:	O THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 OR REVIEW ON:	
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		439,9			<u> </u>	
18. TO THE BE	EST OF MY KNO	WLEDGE AND BELIEF, A	LL DATA IN THIS AP	PLICATION/PREAPPLIC	ATION ARE TRUE AND CORREC	I, THE

DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE

<u>Resource Conservationi</u>

b. Title

Previous Edition Usable
Authorized for Local Reproduction

Laura Cossey

a. Type Name of Authorized Representative

d. Signature of Authorized Representative

ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.

Standard Form 424 (Rev. 7-97) Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

2000

(925) 672-6522

c. Telephone Number

e. Date Signed May 10,

## **Environmental Compliance Checklist**

All applicants must fill out this Environmental Compliance Checklist. Applications must contain answers to the following questions to be responsive and to be considered for funding. <u>Failure to answer these questions and include them with the application will result in the application being considered nonresponsive and not considered for funding.</u>

1.	Do any of the actions included in the proposal require compliance with either the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), or both?				
	X				
	$\frac{\chi}{NO}$				
2.	If you answered yes to # 1, identify the lead governmental agency for CEQA/NEPA compliance.				
	Lead Agency				
3.	If you answered no to # 1, explain why CEQA/NEPA compliance is not required for the actions in the proposal.				
Τ'ł	ne proposal involves writing a watershed plan.				
4.	If CEQA/NEPA compliance is required, describe how the project will comply with either or both of these laws. Describe where the project is in the compliance process and the expected date of completion.				
5.	Will the applicant require a ccess across public or private property that the applicant does not own to accomplish the activities in the proposal?				
	<u></u>				
	YES NO				
	If yes, the applicant must attach written permission for access from the relevant property owner(s). Failure to include written permission for access may result in disqualification of the proposal during the review process. Research and				

monitoring field projects for which specific field locations have not been identified will be required to provide a ccess

needs and permission for access with 30 days of notification of approval.

	approvals may be required for the activities contained in your proposal. Ch
all boxes that apply.	
<u>LOCAL</u>	
Conditional use permit	
Variance	
Subdivision Map Act approval	<del>_</del>
Grading permit	<del>_</del>
General plan amendment	<del>_</del>
Specific plan approval	_
Rezone	_ <del>_</del>
Williamson Act Contract	
cancellation	<u> </u>
Other	
(please specify)	
None required	<u>_X</u>
STATE	
CESA Compliance	(CDFG)
Streambed alteration permit	(CDFG)
CWA § 401 certification	(RWQCB)
Coastal development permit	(Coastal Commission/BCDC)
Reclamation Board approval	
Notification	(DPC, BCDC)
Other	
(please specify)	
None required	_ <u>X</u>
FEDERAL	
ESA Consultation	(USFWS)
Rivers & Harbors Act permit	(ACOE)
CWA § 404 permit	(ACOE)
Other	
(please specify)	
None required	_X_

DPC = Delta Protection Commission CWA = Clean Water Act CESA = California Endangered Species Act USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ACOE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

6.

ESA = Endangered Species Act
CDFG = California Department of Fish and Game
RWQCB = Regional Water Quality Control Board
BCDC= Bay Conservation and Development Comm.

### Land Use Checklist

All applicants must fill out this Land Use Checklist for their proposal. Applications must contain answers to the following questions to be responsive and to be considered for funding. <u>Failure to answer these questions and include them with the application will result in the application being considered nonresponsive and not considered for funding.</u>

l.	Do the actions in the proposal involve physical changes to the land(i.e. grading, planting vegetation, or breeching levces) or restrictions in land use (i.e. conservation easement or placement of land in a wildlife refuge)?				
	YES		NO X		
2.	If NO to # 1, explain what type of	actions are involved in the	e proposal (i.e., research only, planning	only).	
	Watershed planning				
3.	If YES to #1, what is the proposed land use change or restriction under the proposal?				
4. If YES to # 1, is the land currently under a Williamson Act contract?					
	YES		NO		
5.	If YES to # 1, answer the following	g:			
	Current land use Current zoning Current general plan designation			-	
6. If YES to #1, is the land classified as Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique F. Department of Conservation Important Farmland Maps?				e Farmland on the	
	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW		
7.	If YES to # 1, how many acres of land will be subject to physical change or land use restrictions under the proposal				
8.	. If YES to # 1, is the property currently being commercially farmed or grazed?				
	YES		NO		
9.	If YES to #8, what are		employees/acre		
		the total num	ber of employees		

10.	Will the applicant acquire any interest in land under the proposal (fee title or a conservation easement)?			
		<u>X</u>		
	YES	NO		
11.	What entity/organization will hold the interest?			
12.	If YES to # 10, answer the following:			
	Total number of acres to be acquired under proposal Number of acres to be acquired in fee Number of acres to be subject to conservation easement			
13.	For all proposals involving physical changes to the land or restrivill:	iction in land use, describe what entity or organization		
	manage the property			
	provide operations and maintenance services			
	conduct monitoring			
14.	For land acquisitions (fee title or casements), will existing water	rights also be acquired?		
	YES	NO		
15.	Does the applicant propose any modifications to the water right			
		<u> X</u>		
	YES	NO		
16.	If YES to # 15, describe			



5552 Clayton Road - Concord, California 94521 Phone: (925) 672-6522 - Fax (925) 672-8064

May 15, 2000

Delta Protection Commission 14215 River Road P.O. Box 530 Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Interested Party,

This letter is to notify you of the Contra Costa Resource Conservation District's submittal of a CALFED Ecosystem Restoration grant proposal entitled Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program. The goal of the Kirker Creek Watershed CRMP Program is to facilitate, coordinate, and support the efforts of landowners, municipalities, community organizations, industry, and citizens of the Kirker Creek Watershed to develop and write a watershed management plan using the Coordinated Resource Management & Planning (CRMP) process. The CRMP process emphasizes local control, consensus based decision-making, and voluntary implementation. This planning effort is designed to address watershed-wide natural resource problems including restoration of wetland and riparian communities, prevention of soil erosion, reduction of non-point source pollution, reduction of flooding, and the preservation of property rights by engaging local landowners and other watershed stakeholders.

Please see the enclosed copy of our complete proposal for details on the project. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at 925-672-6522 x3.

Sincerely,

Laura Cossey



5552 Clayton Road - Concord, California 94521 Phone: (925) 672-6522 - Fax (925) 672-8064

May 15, 2000

Bay Conservation and Development Commission 30 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2001 San Francisco, CA 94102

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Laura Cossey



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May 15, 2000

City of Pittsburg Clerk of the City Council 65 Civic Avenue Pittsburg, CA 94565

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May 15, 2000

Contra Costa County Planning Department 651 Pine Street, North Wing, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Martinez, CA 94553

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Laura Cossey



5552 Clayton Road - Concord, California 94521 Phone: (925) 672-6522 - Fax (925) 672-8064

May 15, 2000

Contra Costa County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 524 Main Street Martinez, CA 94553

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